Chapter
47
Higasa Akai
THE
ROYAL
TUTOR

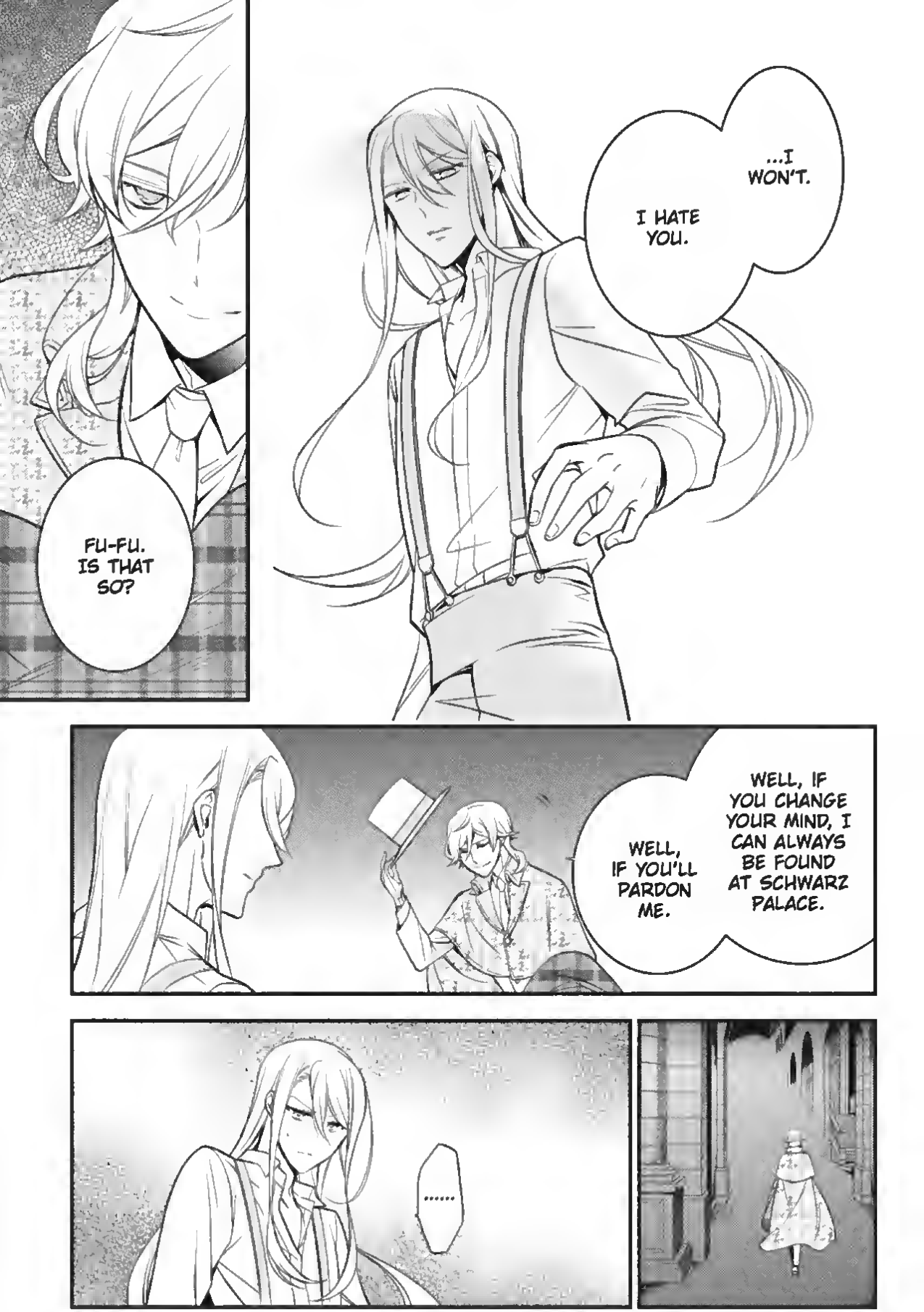
Chapter 47
One's Own Path

WHAT SEEMS TO BE THE MATTER, PRINCE LICHT?
A PROBLEM, PERHAPS?
MAY I BE OF SERVICE ...
...TO YOUR HIGHNESS?

OH?
NOPE. NO PROBLEMS HERE.
...CAREFULLY REEXAMINING YOUR OWN PLANS.
YOU MAY WISH TO CONSIDER...
.....
YOUR TROUBLED EXPRESSION SEEMED TO SUGGEST OTHERWISE.
ALSO, DON'T PRESUME YOU CAN SPEAK TO ME IN SUCH A CHUMMY WAY.
REMEMBER HOW YOU SNOOPED INTO MY PRIVATE LIFE...
...AND SNITCHED TO FATHER ABOUT ME WORKING IN TOWN?
I STILL HAVEN'T FORGIVEN YOU FOR THAT.

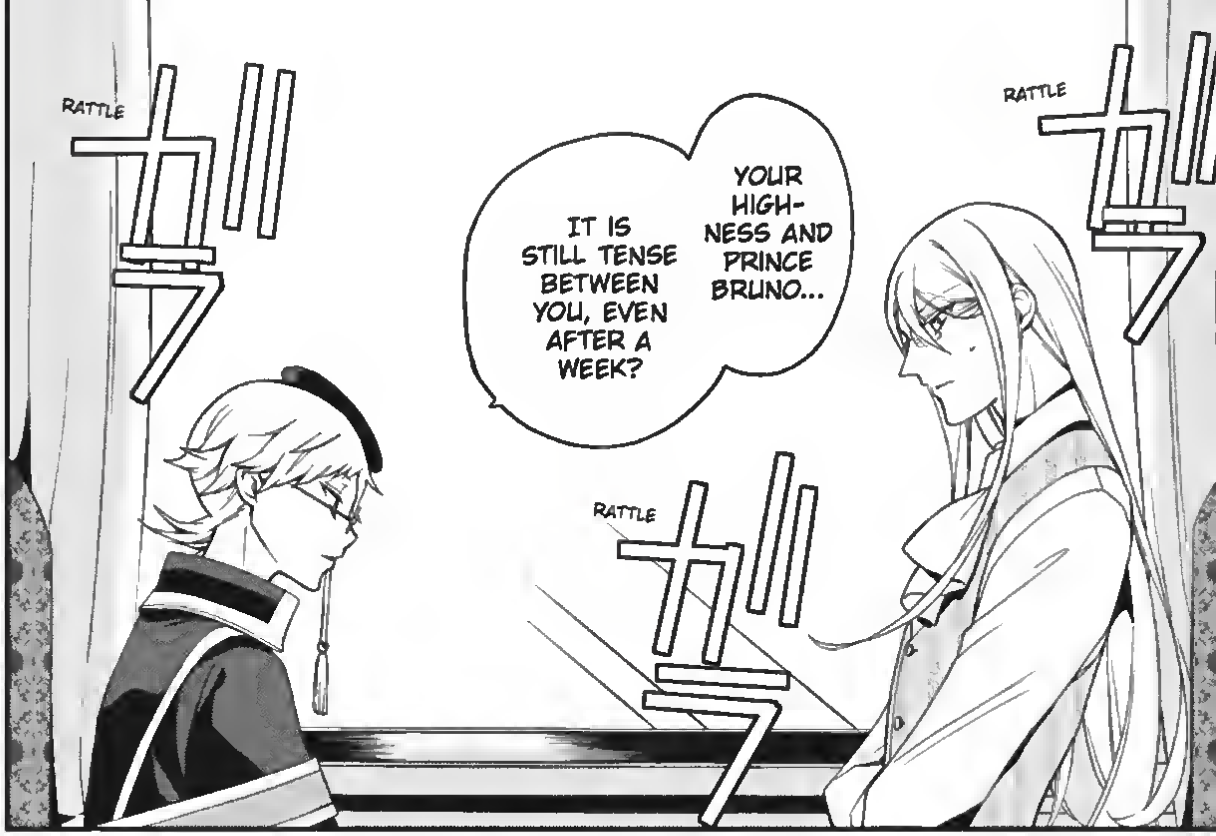
HOWEVER, IT SEEMS THAT HIS MAJESTY GRANTED YOU PERMISSION TO WORK, YES?
YEAH, THANKS TO TEACH.
I HAD HOPED YOU WOULD EXCUSE THAT.
AS ONE WHO SERVES THE ROYAL FAMILY, WHEN I CHANCED UPON YOUR ACTIVITIES, I HAD TO PERFORM MY DUTY.
...STILL, FROM TIME TO TIME, YOU MUST HAVE CONCERNS ...
...THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO EXPRESS TO YOUR FATHER, YOUR BROTHERS, OR PROFESSOR HEINE.
WOULD I BE INCORRECT TO VENTURE THAT WHAT TROUBLES YOU NOW IS ONE SUCH CONCERN?
.....

WHILE I SERVE PRINCE EINS PERSONALLY...
...PLEASE, DO NOT HESITATE TO DEPEND ON ME.
...IF EVER YOU FIND YOURSELF IN NEED OF ASSIS-TANCE...
SHFF
...I WOULD LIKE TO BE AN ALLY TO ALL YOU PRINCES.
WHOOSH
.....


FU-FU. IS THAT SO?
I HATE YOU.
...I WON'T.
WELL, IF YOU'LL PARDON ME.
WELL, IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, I CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND AT SCHWARZ PALACE.
.....

TEEEACH!
IT HAS BEEN ONE WEEK...
...SINCE OUR LAST "FIELD LESSON," HMM?
YUP! THANKS FOR ACCOMPANYING ME AGAIN.

CREAK
LET'S GO, LET'S GO!
YES, YES.
EXCUSE ME, MASTER.
.....
.....


RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE
IT IS STILL TENSE BETWEEN YOU, EVEN AFTER A WEEK?
YOUR HIGH-NESS AND PRINCE BRUNO...

.....
WE'VE NOT SPOKEN ONE WORD TO EACH OTHER.
YEAH... WELL...

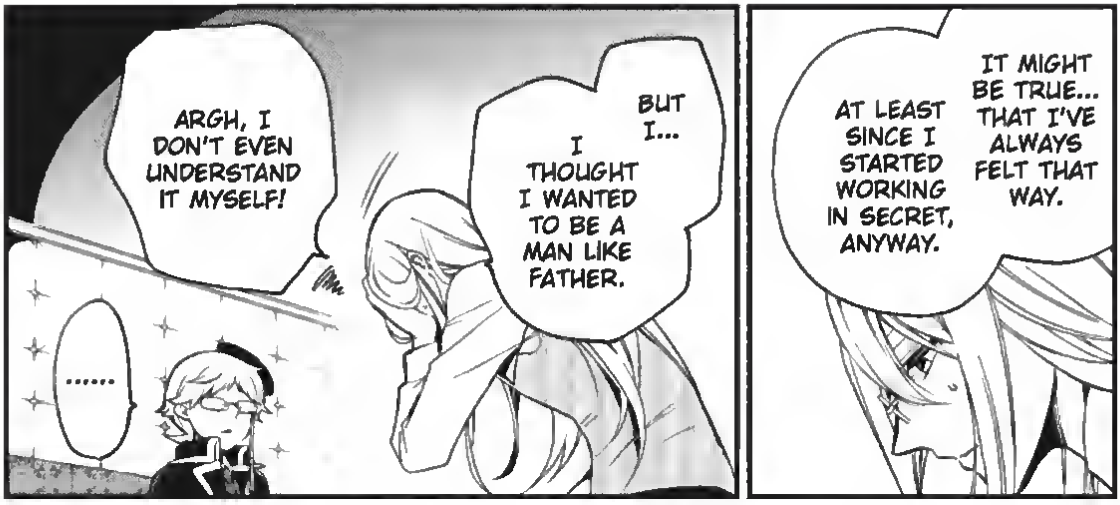
HUNH!?
YOU QUITE RESEMBLE EACH OTHER IN YOUR STUBBORNNESS.
YOU ARE INDEED BROTHERS.

I'M...LIKE BRUNIE...?
AH-HA! IS THAT DUST I SPY!!?
GLINT キリッ
HOW SLOPPY! DO UP ALL OF YOUR BUTTONS!

NO WAY, NO WAY! I'D NEVER GET ANY LADIES LIKE THAAAT!
UWAWAWA
OHH...
OHHH...
I'M NOTHING LIKE THAT BIG-HEADED JERRRK!

GOODNESS GRACIOUS... YOU DO NOT SEE YOUR OWN CHARACTER, DO YOU?
HAVE YOU GIVEN ANY THOUGHT...
...TO YOUR FUTURE PLANS?
H... HRRM...
.....

I BELIEVE YOU EXPRESSED THE SENTIMENT YOURSELF.
WHA—?
RATTLE
PRINCE LICHT, DO YOU FIND YOUR ROYAL POSITION TO BE A FRUSTRATING ONE?
RATTLE
BUT IF IT'S ALWAYS ABOUT OUR ROLE AS ROYALS, DEVOTING OURSELVES TO THE KINGDOM AND ALL THAT...
...THEN WHAT FUN WILL THERE BE IN OUR FUTURES!?
.....
RATTLE
WAS IT COMPLETELY UNTRUE, THEN?
RATTLE
NO...
I DID SAY THAT...
...BUT I THINK I SAID TOO MUCH.


ARGH, I DON'T EVEN UNDERSTAND IT MYSELF!
BUT I... I THOUGHT I WANTED TO BE A MAN LIKE FATHER.
.....
IT MIGHT BE TRUE... THAT I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT WAY.
AT LEAST SINCE I STARTED WORKING IN SECRET, ANYWAY.

HUH?
PERHAPS BOTH DESIRES MAY REFLECT YOUR TRUE FEELINGS?

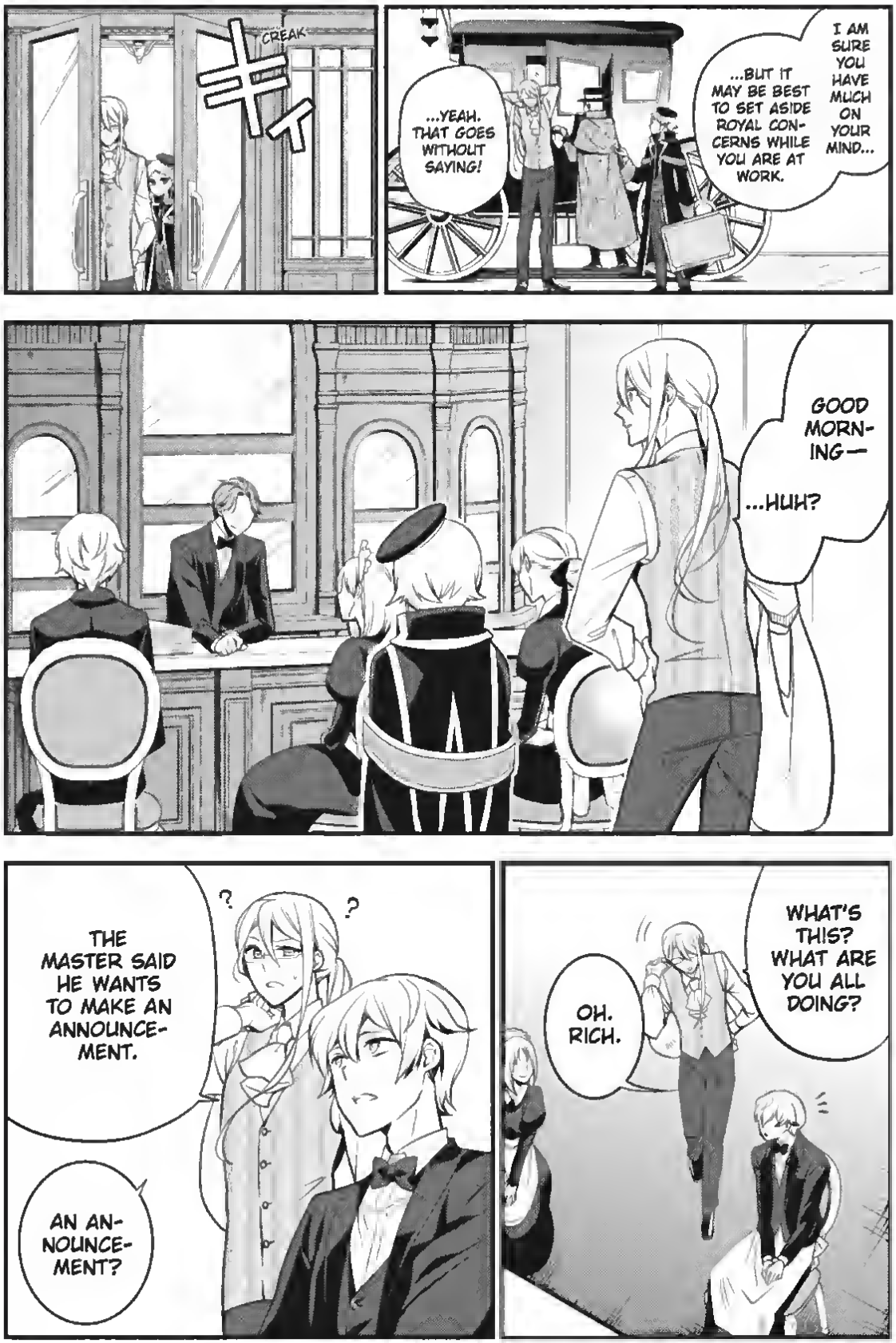
ONE DOES NOT NECESSARILY EQUAL THE OTHER.
HOWEVER, IS THAT THE SAME AS WANTING TO BECOME KING?
YOU WISH TO BE LIKE YOUR FATHER.

YOUR HIGH-NESS...
...HAS YET TO COMPLETELY ACCEPT THE NOTION OF LIVING OUT YOUR LIFE AS A ROYAL.
AM I WRONG?
.....!

TA-HAA!
NO, NOT AT ALL.
IN A WAY, IT'S WORSE THAN LEONIE THE DUNCE...
I-ISN'T THAT COMPLETELY TERRIBLE FOR A PRINCE?
IT IS ONLY NATURAL YOU MIGHT THINK YOU CANNOT BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY THAT COMES WITH ROYAL LINEAGE.
IN MY VIEW...
...YOUR HIGHNESSES ARE STILL CHILDREN.
LIKE I'VE TOLD YOU, THAT ISN'T PRAISE!
INDEED...
PARTICULARLY FOR A CHILD SO UTTERLY ORDINARY AS YOURSELF...

.....
NOW, NOW.
THIS IS ALL SPECULATION.
I AM MERELY IMAGINING HOW A PRINCE MIGHT FEEL.
URRGH...I'M A CHARISMATIC PRINCE LOVED BY THE LADIES...
...NO...
I THINK YOU'VE HIT THE MARK.
MAYBE THE WHOLE REASON I THOUGHT WORKING IN TOWN WAS FUN...
...WAS BECAUSE I WAS RUNNING FROM MY DUTIES AS A ROYAL.
EVEN IF THAT WAS THE REASON AT FIRST...
...NOW I THINK INTERACTING WITH ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE AND LEARNING HOW COMMONERS LIVE...
...WILL BE ADVANTAGEOUS AS A KING, SO I WANT TO DO MY BEST AT IT...

PAT
ぽん
DO NOT LET THIS WEIGH ON YOUR MIND TOO MUCH.
YOU SHOULD CONSIDER THE MATTER AT YOUR LEISURE.
.....
AFTER ALL, THIS IS A QUES-TION...
...YOU WILL HAVE TO ANSWER FOR YOURSELF.
SKREE
キィッ
.....


CREAK
キィ
I AM SURE YOU HAVE MUCH ON YOUR MIND...
...BUT IT MAY BE BEST TO SET ASIDE ROYAL CONCERNS WHILE YOU ARE AT WORK.
...YEAH. THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING!
GOOD MORNING—
...HUH?
WHAT'S THIS? WHAT ARE YOU ALL DOING?
OH. RICH.
THE MASTER SAID HE WANTS TO MAKE AN ANNOUNCEMENT.
? ?
AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

ALL RIGHT. EVERY-ONE'S HERE FOR THE DAY, THEN.
OH!
RICH, THERE YOU ARE!
AHEM!
...I HAVE AN ANNOUNCE-MENT.
IT'S NOT THAT.
ERM...
ARGH, ENOUGH! THE MOUTHS ON YOU LOT!
IS IT MARRIAGE!? THE MASTER'S FINALLY GETTING MARRIED, I KNOW IT!
ENOUGH OF THE POMP. GET ON WITH IIIT.
OH!
TIRED OF WAITING...

CAFÉ MITTER MEYER...
...WILL BE OPENING A SECOND LOCATION!

WHAAAT!?
HEH-HEH!

I-IS THAT A GOOD IDEA? IF YOU BITE OFF MORE THAN YOU CAN CHEW AND FAIL...
...YOU'LL LOSE THE CAFÉ!

WHAT?
I HAVE A PROPER PLAN.
YOU SEE, THE NEWSPAPER IS GOING TO PRINT A PIECE ON THE CAFÉ.
REALLY? THAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU SAY? HOW CRUEL...
SLUMP
がくっ

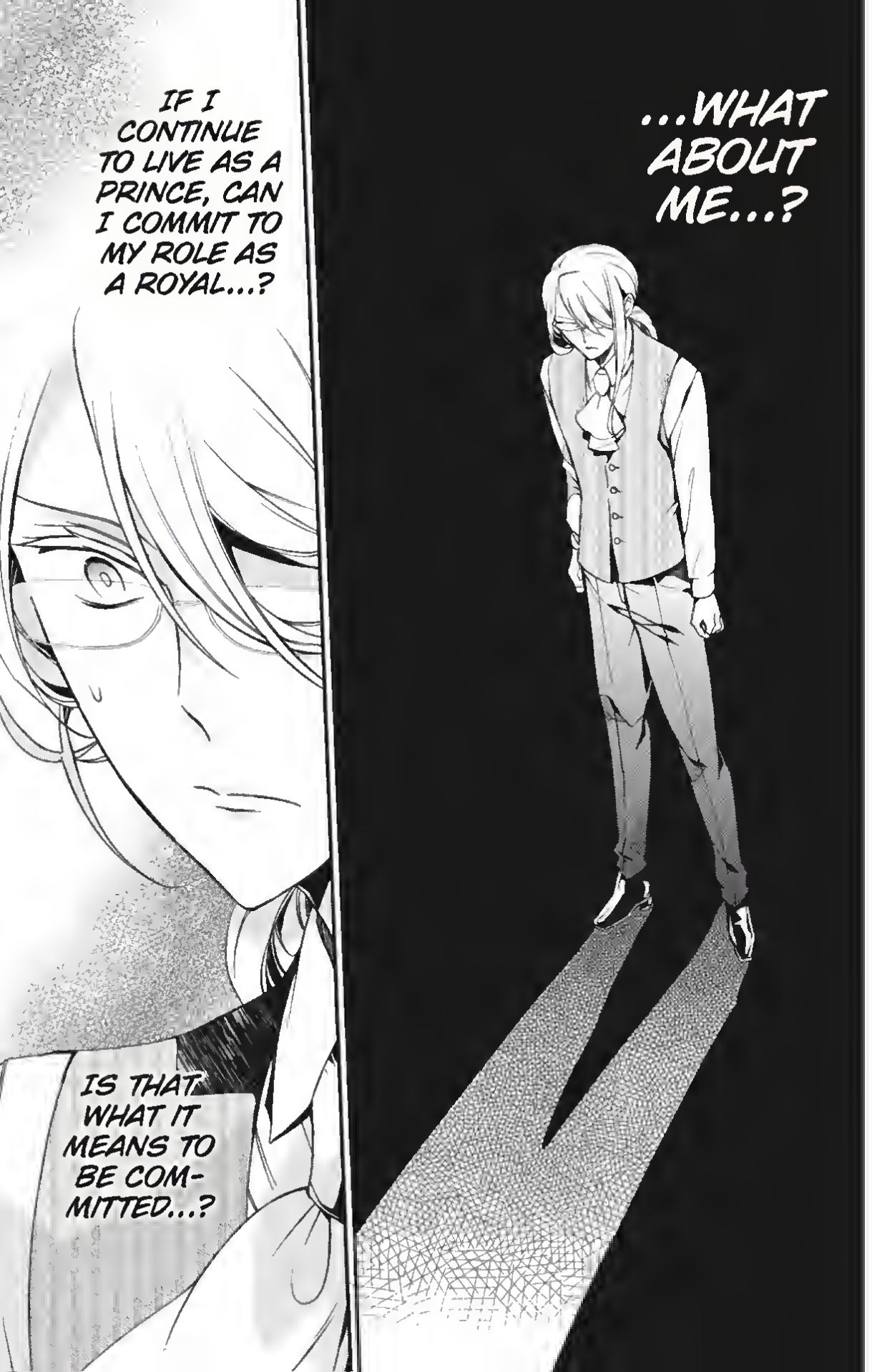
THE NEWSPAPER... DOESN'T EVERYONE IN TOWN SEE THAT?
THAT'S INCREDIBLE...
WOW...
COFFEE OF A GOOD QUALITY AND TYPE IS POPULAR.
IN PREPARATION OF THIS MOMENT, I'VE SAVED FUNDS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS SINCE STARTING THE CAFÉ.
THAT'S RIGHT! AT THE VERY LEAST, WE'RE SURE TO HAVE MORE VISITORS THAN EVER BEFORE.
I'M GOING TO USE THAT TIMING TO OPEN UP A SECOND SHOP—ALBEIT A SMALL ONE—IN THE CITY CENTER.
I WON'T BE CHANGING THIS CAFÉ. I PLAN ON MAKING IT THE CORNERSTONE OF MY BUSINESS.
AT THIS CAFÉ, PATRONS CAN ENJOY THE SAME COFFEE, PLUS TORTES, LIGHT MEALS, AND THE LIKE.
THE SECOND SHOP WILL SPECIALIZE IN COFFEE, TO INTRODUCE PEOPLE TO HOW GREAT IT IS.

I'VE EVEN CHOSEN THE PROPERTY ALREADY...
FWSH
WHEW...
I'VE COME UP WITH WAYS TO AVOID FAILURE, SO YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
WHY, IT'S THE CITY'S MAIN STREET!
IT GOES STRAIGHT TO THE CATHEDRAL TOO. IT HAS ESTABLISHED RESTAURANTS, HOTELS...
THAT'S CLOSE TO THE PALACE!
KOHL STREET ...!?
...OUR SECOND SHOP...
MITTER MEYER... IS GOING TO BE HERE?
.....
.....

WAAH! CONGRAT-ULATIONS, MASTER!
HOW INCRED-IBLE! A SECOND SHOP!!
CLAMOR
WELL, IT WAS SO SUDDEN.
WE COULDN'T EVEN WRAP OUR HEADS AROUND IT...
NOW IT HAS YOUR BLESSING? IT TOOK YOU LONG ENOUGH!
WAH!
SFX: CLAP CLAP
DO I SEEM THAT PATHETIC!?
AN EASY MARK FOR SURE...
BESIDES, YOU SEEM LIKE THE SORT WHO'D END UP TAKING ON LOANS...

THIS BUSI-NESS IS MY LIFE.
I DIDN'T CHOOSE THIS PATH ONLY HALF-COMMITTED, YOU KNOW!
BADUM
LET'S WORK TOWARD SHOPS THREE AND FOUR!
AREN'T YOU COOL!
WELL LOOK AT YOU MASTER.
.....

.....
I DO THE JOB BECAUSE I ENJOY IT.
...WITH HIS OWN TWO HANDS.
THE MASTER IS CARVING OUT HIS FUTURE...


IF I CONTINUE TO LIVE AS A PRINCE, CAN I COMMIT TO MY ROLE AS A ROYAL...?
IS THAT WHAT IT MEANS TO BE COM-MITTED...?
...WHAT ABOUT ME...?

ESCAPING THROUGH WORK BECAUSE I'M NOT PREPARED FOR WHAT IT MEANS TO BE ROYALTY...
THAT'S NOT RIGHT EITHER.
...NO. THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.
I SEE. SO THAT'S THE ANSWER...

I WANT TO BE A MAN OF GREAT CHARACTER, LIKE FATHER...
...WITH A JOB THAT I LOVE, LIKE THE MASTER...

HERR RICH?
.....
RICH!
BZZT
ペけっ
ERM...
WHEN THE NEWS-PAPER PEOPLE COME BY, I WANT YOU HERE.
I THINK YOU'D BE GREAT FOR IT.
YUP, THAT'S JUST ASKING FOR MY IDENTITY TO BE REVEALED.

AHH... ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT...
THE WORLD JUST WON'T LET ME GO!
BESIDES, IF THE WORLD DISCOVERED ME, THEY'D STEAL ME AWAY TO BE AN ACTOR OR A MODEL, WOULDN'T THEY?
SO SORRY, MAS-TER!
MY GOOD LOOKS ARE RESERVED FOR THE LADIES WHO COME HERE.
I MIGHT NEED YOU TO WORK AT THE NEW CAFÉ SOME-TIMES TOO.
WE'LL BE GETTING BUSIER.
THEN CAN WE INCREASE YOUR SHIFTS?
.....
GLANCE
ちら
HMM...

...WE MAY BE ABLE TO WORK SOMETHING OUT.
...CON-GRATU-LATIONS, TRULY...
...MASTER!
WHAT'S THIS? YOU DON'T SEEM TOO ENTHUSED.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!

RICH'S LITTLE BROTHER!
WHEN WE'RE DONE WORKING FOR THE DAY, LET'S GO OUT TO EAT TO CELEBRATE THE SECOND SHOP!
HOIST
AH.
AHEM... HERR RICH...
THANKS.
I'M GOING TO TREAT EVERYONE, INCLUDING YOU.
YES, OF COURSE!
STARE
I AM INVITED AS WELL?
.....
AHAHAHAHA
...TO THE WIENNER GRAND HOTEL BAR.
MASTER! I WANT TO GO...
UM, EXCUSE ME...
WHAT? STINGY.
WHAT ARE YOU...!? WE'RE GOING TO THE LOCAL HEURIGER, OBVIOUSLY!

CREEEAK
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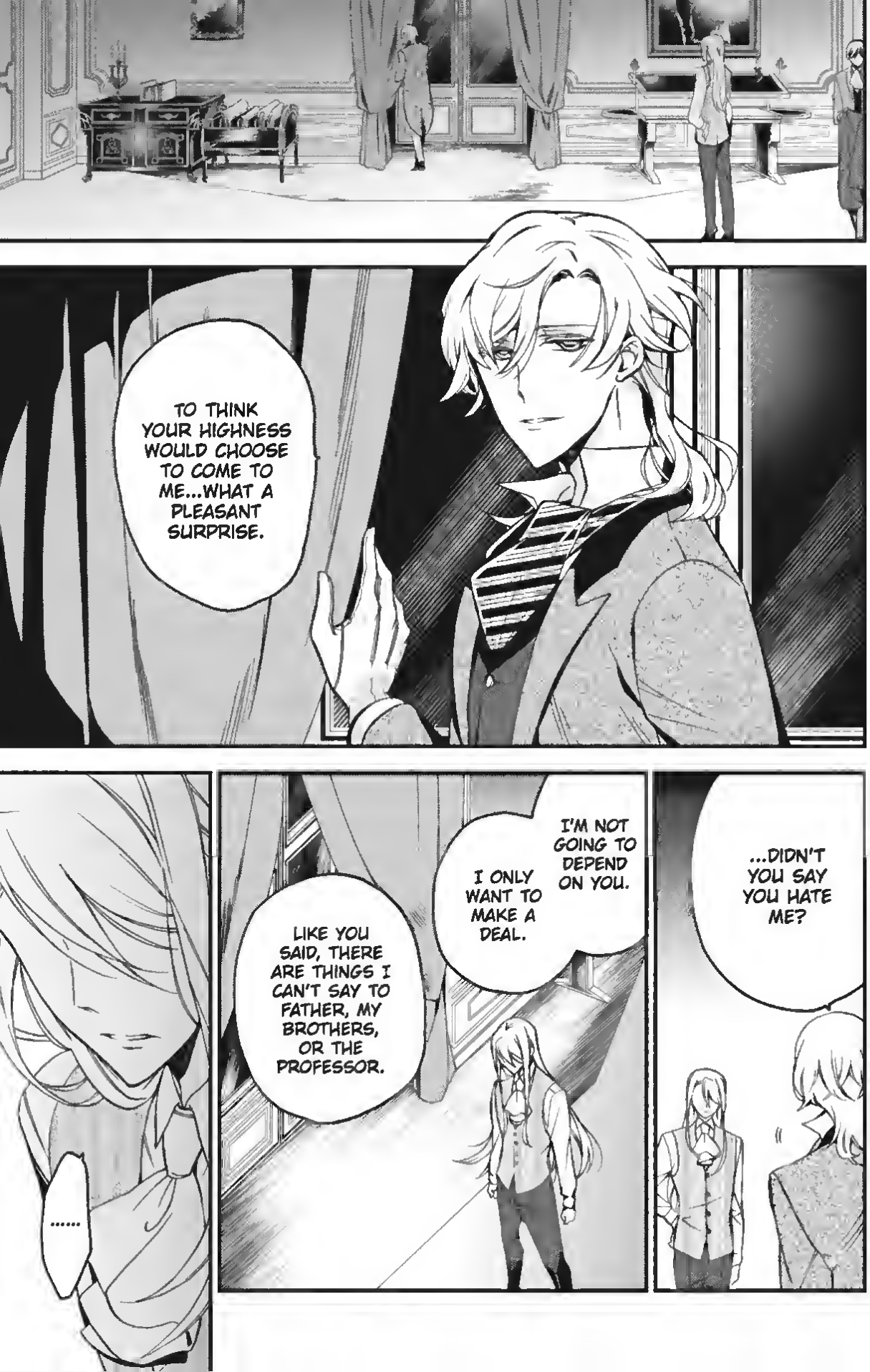
TO THINK YOUR HIGHNESS WOULD CHOOSE TO COME TO ME...WHAT A PLEASANT SURPRISE.
...DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU HATE ME?
I'M NOT GOING TO DEPEND ON YOU.
I ONLY WANT TO MAKE A DEAL.
LIKE YOU SAID, THERE ARE THINGS I CAN'T SAY TO FATHER, MY BROTHERS, OR THE PROFESSOR.
.....

WHAT ASSIS-TANCE COULD YOU OFFER...
...TO HELP A PRINCE MAKE A LIFE OUT-SIDE THE PALACE?
To be continued in the next chapter of The Royal Tutor

The Royal Tutor Chapter 47

Higasa Akai

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